of the taluk conferences resolved that the rules relating to acquisition proceedings should be modified with a view to expedite action on resolutions sent up by village panchayets? If so, what action have the Government taken?

MR. N. MADHAVA RAO.—No modification of rules is considered necessary. The rules are all right as they stand. But the delay is sometimes due to sanitary officers not approving of the sites proposed, the village panchayets not readily paying the amount of compensation, and so on. These are being periodically examined and delays avoided. And in cases where the acquisition proceedings cannot be taken, instructions have been issued to drop them definitely.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH.—For the acquisition of lands required for purposes like railways or roads, Government use their emergency powers. Why should there be delay for years together in cases in which the village panchayets send up resolutions and also deposit the necessary amount of money?

MR. N. MADHAVA RAO.—If once the question of site is decided and the money is ready, then there need be no delay at all.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH.—Is not this question coming up before the Government year after year? And did not the Government give a promise at a recent session of this Assembly that strict orders would be issued to the effect that all such cases should be promptly disposed of?

MR. N. MADHAVA RAO.—Yes; and action is being taken in that direction.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH.—In cases where there has been abnormal delay, will the Government punish the officers responsible for it?

MR. N. MADHAVA RAO.—Disciplinary action alone will not satisfy all requirements. Government have been doing all they can to dispose of such cases as early as possible. It would be a great help if panchayets also cooperate with the Revenue authorities in the matter by making the necessary funds readily available in all cases.

MR. T. RAMACHANDRA.—Will the Government please expedite the proceedings in respect of lands required for Adikarnatakas and other depressed classes in the villages?

MR. N. MADHAVA RAO.—Yes.

ANOTHER MEMBER.—Will the Government issue a circular to their subordinate officers to the effect that in cases where the panchayets have sent up resolutions for acquisitions for village sites, no fines need be levied?

MR N. MADHAVA RAO.—Revenue rules already provide for such exemptions. We shall draw the attention of all the local officers to the rules in this behalf.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—(*concld.*).

VII. General Principles of the Bill further to Amend the Mysore District Boards Regulation, 1926.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (MR. M. VENKATANARANAPPA) explained the general principles of the Bill as follows:—

"The object of amending the Bill is to introduce necessary changes as regards utilisation of the railway cess which have been accepted by the Government in the Government Order on the Motor Transport Committee's Report and to bring certain other provisions in conformity with the latest legislation such as the City Municipalities Regulation of 1933.

"The main changes sought to be introduced in the District Boards Regulation by the Amending Bill are the following:—

Disqualifications of Voters and Candidates.

"The disqualifications of voters are now prescribed in Section 10 of the Regulation. But this section is referred to in Section 26 as prescribing the disqualifications of candidates. These disqualifications are therefore proposed to be made applicable to candidates for election to the District Board as in the case of candidates for election to the City and Town Municipal Councils. There is no necessity to prescribe any general disqualifications for voters.

Hence Section 9 is proposed to be amended accordingly.

"As regards the disqualifications of candidates, there is no provision in the existing Section 11 which excludes persons who are professionally engaged or accept employment as legal practitioners on behalf of or against a District Board. Such exclusion exists in the case of candidates to the City and Town Municipal Councils and it is considered necessary to include this disqualification in the section.

Term of Office of Presidents and Vice-Presidents.

"Existing Section 23 of the Regulation does not indicate the date on which the term of office of the President or Vice-President of the District Board commences. With a view to remove doubts on this point, the amendment proposed makes it clear that the term commences from the date of notification of their election or appointment.

"There is no provision at present for the removal of Presidents or Vice-Presidents who are unable to pay their debts. Though a proposal to introduce this provision in the Regulation was vetoed by this House in October 1931, it is considered very necessary to make this provision, as it has since been prescribed in the case of the City and Town Municipal Councils in a modified form. Section 23 of the Regulation is accordingly proposed to be amended. The amendment also makes it clear that a person will be considered to be unable to pay his debts if he is under arrest or imprisonment in execution of the decree of any court for the payment of money due by him.

Liabilities of Members of District Boards.

"The members of District Boards are now personally liable for misapplication of any money or other property of the District Boards. It is necessary to make them liable also for loss or waste of the money or property of the District Boards caused by their negligence or misconduct. The necessary addition is accordingly made in the proviso to Section 37 of the Regulation.

Duties of District Boards.

"Section 45 of the Regulation relating to the expenditure from the District Fund makes no distinction between the obligatory and discretionary duties of District Boards for which expenditure may be incurred. It is necessary to treat the less important duties as discretionary and also to amplify the latter as in Sections 58 to 60 of the City Municipalities Regulation. Section 45 is proposed to be amended accordingly, mentioning the duties of the Boards exhaustively with a view to remove the difficulties now felt in interpreting the section.

Establishment and Control of Ferries, Markets, Slaughter Houses, etc.

"Section 54 of the Regulation relating to the above has been found to be defective in many particulars. It is considered that the control over slaughter houses and cart stands should be left to the village panchayets generally. Restrictions are also necessary as regards the opening of new public markets, and it is desirable to associate village panchayets more largely with the management of local markets and to specifically exempt jatras, fairs, etc., held under the management of Muzrai Officers from the control of District Boards. Section 54 is proposed to be amended accordingly.

Expenditure outside the Area of District Boards.

"Section 65 of the Regulation lays down that expenditure of the District Fund outside the area of the District Board can be incurred with the sanction of the Government, except in respect of certain charges for which such sanction is not required. This restriction is now proposed to be removed by amending Section 65 on the lines of Section 55 of the City Municipalities Regulation, by specifying the items of expenditure which may be incurred by the Board irrespective of the Board's jurisdiction.

Utilisation of the Railway Cess for Construction of Roads and Bridges.

"Under Section 68 of the Regulation as amended by Regulation II of 1932,

the interest or other income derived from investment of the railway cess may, with the previous approval of Government, be utilised for works which may improve the means of communications in the district. The Motor Transport Committee have recommended that the railway cess may also be utilised similarly and Government have accepted the proposal in their order on the Committee's report. It is accordingly proposed to further amend subsection (4) of Section 68 of the Regulation so as to permit the utilisation of the railway cess or the interest or other income referred to above for the construction of new roads and bridges or for improvement works to existing roads in the district.

District Fund Accounts and Administration Reports.

"A new chapter is proposed to be substituted for Sections 76 to 79 of the Regulation after the model of Chapter XI of the City Municipalities Regulation. The new provisions relax the control of Government over the budgets of District Boards and provide for surcharging, on the report of the Government Auditor, the persons responsible for deficiency or loss caused by their negligence or misconduct. Provision is also made for the submission to Government of the annual administration reports of District Boards, as no such provision exists now in support of the present practice.

Delegation of Powers of Government.

"A new section is proposed to be introduced in the Regulation enabling Government to delegate all or any of its powers under the Regulation to any officer subordinate to it. Such an enabling provision is considered necessary.

"The other changes proposed are minor ones, being mostly verbal amendments intended to make the meaning clear or consequential on the other amendments proposed."

MR. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY said that without entering into a discussion on the merits of the amendments placed before the House, he would like to make some preliminary observations. He said that in the month of February last there was a conference of District Board Presidents at which various matters pertaining to the administration of District Boards had been threshed out and resolutions passed and submitted to Government for consideration. It was hoped that in view of those resolutions, the District Board Presidents would in fairness be given an opportunity to discuss the matters referred to in the resolutions with the Government either in a committee or in an informal manner. In fact, Government had promised to give such a chance to them. That promise had not been fulfilled, but Government had proposed certain amendments some of which affected such important questions like the utilisation of railway cess collections for the construction of new roads and bridges and for improvements to existing roads in the districts. Therefore on behalf of himself and the Presidents of other District Boards he would request the Government even now to either appoint a small committee or invite an informal conference to discuss all the matters referred to in the said resolutions and then bring up necessary amendments instead of passing piecemeal legislation which would not be very satisfactory. Even supposing the amendments now proposed were passed, other amending bills would still be necessary in order to give effect to the recommendations of the conference affecting not only the District Boards Regulation but the City, Town and Minor Municipalities Regulations also. This, he said, might be avoided by placing a comprehensive amending Bill once for all before the House. Pending that, he appealed to the Government to take back the measure for the present.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY said that at present there was no co-ordination between the village panchayets or municipalities on the one hand and the District Boards on the other, and that such co-ordination was a necessary requisite for all-round progress. By merely amending the District Boards Regulation only, things would not improve. All local-self-government enactments should be taken together and examined

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with a view to bring about this result. For this reason, he was also in favour of the present Bill being withdrawn and a comprehensive Bill placed before the Assembly some time hence.

THE SECOND MEMBER (*Rajamantrapravina* S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI) observed that there was an urgent necessity to amend the Regulation in respect of provisions relating to the utilisation of railway cess collections for construction of roads, etc. For a long time the amendment of the District Boards Regulation had been in view and this Bill was the result of some further recommendations of the Motor Transport Committee. While drafting this Bill, Government had taken opportunity to bring certain other amendments also. Government had before them the resolutions of the conference of District Board Presidents and they would take necessary action on them. But it would take some time as the matters referred to therein would have to be considered by a committee or in an informal conference, as Mr. Chengalaraya Reddy had suggested. It was not known what time would be required for all that, and Government could not defer till then amendments to permit of the utilisation of the railway cess fund for the purpose referred to. The other amendments proposed were only formal amendments. So, with a view to avoid delay, the Bill before the House might be discussed and disposed of. After a decision was reached on the matters referred to by Mr. Chengalaraya Reddy another amending Bill would be placed before the House, if found necessary.

MR. N. G. SANJEEVIAH said that as in the case of the committee appointed to consider the amendments necessary to the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation, the committee to be appointed to go into these matters might also be directed to submit their report within a specified time.

MR. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI observed that it might not be possible to fix a time limit in all cases.

MR. D. S. MALLAPPA said that the Elementary Education Regulation and some other laws were connected with the District Boards Regulation. District Boards were very important self governing bodies and it would be worth while bringing up a comprehensive Bill embodying all the amendments necessary with reference to all the laws referred to. After all, nothing was going to be lost by postponing such a consolidated Bill for a few months.

MR. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI observed that many of the recommendations of the conference of District Board Presidents could be given effect to by mere modification of the rules and it would not be worth while deferring important amendments to the Regulation till those modifications of rules were made.

MESSRS. H. B. GUNDAPPA and B. S. PUTTASWAMY thought that even the amendment relating to the utilisation of railway cess collections for road purposes was not of a very urgent nature. Both the Government and the District Board Presidents were eager to effect certain amendments to the Regulation and it was desirable to do so at the earliest opportunity. The District Boards had already submitted to Government their budget estimates for the coming year and it would not be possible for them to give effect to the amendment relating to utilisation of railway cess collections in that year. So, even if the amendment was rushed through, no object would be gained in the near future. For these reasons, they considered that it would be desirable to consider all aspects of the question and bring up a comprehensive Bill before the House at its next session.

THE DEWAN accepted this suggestion and promised in the meantime to appoint a small committee for looking into all the details.

Thereupon the Bill was *withdrawn*.

VIII. General Principles of the Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Law relating to Labour in Factories.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (MR. M. VENKATANARANAPPA) explained the general principles of the Bill as follows:—

"The Mysore Factories Regulation passed in 1914 was closely modelled on the Indian Factories Act of 1911. On the amendment of the Indian Act in

1922, the Regulation in Mysore was also amended on similar lines by Regulation X of 1925. There have been no modifications of the Mysore Regulation since then, although the Indian Act has undergone amendments subsequently in 1923, 1926 and 1931.

"The question of amending the Mysore Regulation so as to bring it into conformity with the law as amended in British India has been under consideration for some years past. When in the year 1929, the Royal Commission on Labour was appointed in British India, it was thought desirable to await its recommendations before taking action to amend the law relating to factories in Mysore. The report of the Royal Commission was published in July 1931 and it contained a number of recommendations for the revision of the Indian Factories Act. After examining these recommendations in detail, the Government of India introduced a Bill in the Indian Legislature which was passed into law in August last as the 'Indian Factories Act, XXV of 1934.' The new Act came into force in British India from 1st January 1935.

"Nearly all the more important alterations in the Indian Act are based on the recommendations of the Royal Commission. Opportunity has also been taken to re-arrange the law on the subject and to revise its expression wherever necessary, at the same time introducing such changes as experience had shown to be desirable.

"The Board of Industries and Commerce who were consulted in the matter are of opinion that the law regulating labour in factories in Mysore may be brought into conformity with the law on the subject as recently enacted in British India.

"The Government now propose to introduce in the Legislative Council a Bill on the lines of the Indian Factories Act, 1934.

"The important changes in the existing law are briefly explained in the following paragraphs :—

Scope of the Law.

"The definition of 'Factory' has been slightly modified. An establishment employing not less than 20 persons simultaneously on any one day of the year comes within the present definition of a factory. It is proposed to amend the definition so as to cover establishments which employ 20 or more persons on any one day although they are not employed simultaneously. It is also made clear by the amendment that the year on any one day of which 20 or more persons should have been employed is the year comprising the preceding twelve months.

"The existing provision under which establishments employing ten or more persons may be declared by the Government to be factories, will be continued.

"A differentiation has also been made between factories working all the year round and those working during particular seasons of the year which are called seasonal factories. Different sets of standards in regard to hours of work, etc., are prescribed for the latter class of factories. A factory engaged in cotton ginning, cotton pressing, the decortication of groundnuts, the manufacture of coffee, lac, rubber, sugar or tea is classed as a seasonal factory. Government will be empowered to declare a seasonal factory to be a non-seasonal factory when it works for more than 180 days in the year, and to declare any particular factory under certain conditions to be a seasonal factory.

Health and Safety.

"The present Regulation contains certain provisions to secure the health and safety of the workers in factories. There are provisions to secure cleanliness, good ventilation and lighting, elimination of dust or other impurity, prevention of overcrowding, purity of water used for humidifying and sufficient and suitable latrine and urinal accommodation. The Bill contains provisions calculated for the better safeguarding of the health of the workers and removal of serious discomfort to them during the hours of employment. If the cooling properties of the air in any factory are insufficient to secure workers against injury to health or against serious discomfort,

power is given to Inspectors to direct remedial measures being taken. In factories where the manufacturing process involves contact with injurious or obnoxious substances, workers will have to be provided with sufficient supply of water for washing. It is made obligatory for every factory to maintain, in a sanitary condition, latrines and urinals for male workers and for female workers separately. Inspectors have powers under the existing Regulation to issue orders requiring action to be taken where the machinery or plant has become dangerous and prohibiting the use of dangerous machinery or plant pending repairs. But there may be cases in which an Inspector without having sufficient data for issuing definite directions of this nature may have reason to believe that the use of certain machinery or plant may involve danger. Provision has therefore been made in the Bill to enable Inspectors in such cases to require managers of factories to furnish specifications of defective parts or to carry out tests of stability. Provision is made empowering Government to frame rules (1) requiring that a building shall not be used for factory purposes without a certificate of stability, (2) for the protection of workers engaged in hazardous operations, and (3) for providing adequate shelter during rest for the workers and suitable accommodation for the use of children under six years belonging to women workers, etc.

Special Provisions regarding Employment of Children.

"The employment of children under 11 years of age is prohibited under the present Regulation. It is proposed in the Bill to raise the prohibited limit of age to 12. The present Regulation has special provisions regarding the employment of children under 15 years of age and their hours of work. Persons above 15 years of age are considered as adults to whom the general provisions apply. Under the Bill, persons between the ages 15 and 17 will be classified under a new group called 'adolescents' and unless they are certified by the certifying surgeon as adults, they will be regarded as 'children.'

Hours of Employment and Holidays.

"For adults the maximum hours of work under the existing Regulation is 60 hours in any one week and 11 hours in any one day. It is proposed in the Bill to reduce the maximum in the case of non-seasonal factories to 54 hours a week and 10 hours a day while retaining the maximum of 60 hours a week and 11 hours a day in the case of seasonal factories. The maximum hours of work for children under the existing law is 5½ hours and it is proposed to reduce this to 5 hours. It is provided in the Bill that the periods of work for an adult with intervals for rest shall not spread over more than 13 hours in any one day. This is designed to ensure that the hours of work are so arranged that the worker gets a reasonably long period away from the factory on each day. The spread over in the case of children is limited to 7½ hours.

"While the above are the limits regarding ordinary working hours, Government will have power to relax these restrictions to some extent in certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions. Where a worker works for more than the ordinary working hours, the excess is called 'overtime.' While granting exemptions as above, Government shall fix the maximum amount of overtime that a worker will be allowed to work. For overtime in excess of 54 hours a week a worker will be entitled to pay at the rates of 1¼ times his ordinary rate of pay and for overtime in excess of 60 hours a week in any factory or 10 hours a day in a non-seasonal factory to 1½ times his ordinary rate of pay. Provision is made to secure that there is no overlapping of shifts, that is, simultaneous employment on work of the same kind of more than one shift of persons.

Penalties.

"Provision is made for a general increase of the penalty in the case of repeated offences. When a factory is owned by a firm of individuals or a

company, any one of the partners of the firm or the directors of the company may be prosecuted and punished for offences under the Regulation.

Section 43A which provided for the grant of compensation to injured workers out of fines has been omitted as adequate provision is now made by the Workmen's Compensation Regulation."

MR. C. N. NARASINGA RAO thanked the Government for having brought up this long-expected Bill. Regarding certifying surgeons, he said that if they were employees of the mills, they would look more to the interests of the concern than to those of the workers. For this purpose he thought that surgeons other than those in the employ of the concern should alone be empowered to issue the certificates.

THE FIRST MEMBER (*Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur* K. MATTHAN) observed that that was also the view of Government.

MR. NARASINGA RAO then said that *beedi* factories and soap factories should also be brought within the definition of the term 'factory' whether they used power or not, and that the power of declaring any premises as factories should not be left to the discretion of Government.

MR. K. MATTHAN said that this was a matter which could be considered at the select committee stage.

MR. NARASINGA RAO was of opinion that the minimum age of boys and girls to be employed in factories should be increased from 12 to 14 in view of the fact that at present so many young boys and girls were tempted to seek employment in the factories, depriving themselves of all opportunities of even primary education.

MR. K. MATTHAN reminded the member that the British Indian Act also had raised the age limit from 11 to 12. He added that it was better to have our factory legislation on the same lines as for British India and that it would be disadvantageous if the State went beyond the British Indian Act, in respect of any particular matter. If they did so in this case, the local factories would be placed at a disadvantageous position as compared with factories in British India.

MR. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY, in supporting the Bill, said that it had not come a day too soon. The British Indian Act had been amended a number of times since 1924 and the Bill under consideration had been drafted on the lines of that Act as it stood at present. As such there were not many controversial points in it. He however observed that in the matter of labour legislation, generally, the State was moving rather too slowly. So far as British India was concerned, a number of enactments had been passed, *e.g.*, the Trade Union Registration Act, the Trade Disputes Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Maternity Benefits Act, the Indian Mines Act, the Indian Plantations Act, and so on. He hoped that Government would take action on similar lines in the State also.

Regarding Inspecting staff, he said that every District Magistrate was an Inspector for his district and in addition, there was provision in the Bill for the appointment of other public officers as inspecting officers. In that case he suggested that it would be better to specify the status of the officers who could be so appointed. Personally he would suggest that such officers should not be of a status lower than that of Assistant Commissioners. He also added that, just as in the case of boys, there should be provision for giving education and other amenities to girls also in all factories employing more than 50 girls.

MR. S. K. VENKATARANGA IYENGAR said that he did not agree that the Bill was really a comprehensive piece of legislation, for the reason that some important recommendations of the Whitley Commission had not been included in it. He thought that there were 12 recommendations made by that Commission regarding labour in factories, of which only six had been embodied in the proposed Bill; and of those, again, only three were of any importance. With regard to classification of factories into two divisions, *viz.*, seasonal and non-seasonal, he did not

know if there were any special reasons for granting exemption in the case of the sugar factory. He wanted that either the exemption should be removed or that it should be declared a non-seasonal factory so that the benefit of reduction in the number of working hours per week might be given to the workers of that factory also.

MR. K. MATTHAN observed that that would amount to placing the local sugar factories at a disadvantage as compared to factories in northern India.

MR. VENKATARANGA IYENGAR wanted that the number of working hours should be limited in the sugar factory in the State even though the same thing was not done in factories elsewhere, because this legislation was based mainly on humanitarian considerations.

MR. K. MATTHAN reminded the speaker that even the Whitley Commission had not made any such recommendation in respect of sugar factories.

MR. VENKATARANGA IYENGAR then said that it was not enough if the age limit of boys and girls working in factories was raised from 11 to 12, but that it should be raised to 14 as recommended by the Commission.

He also wanted that factory owners should be compelled to provide adequate educational facilities for the half-time workers. Even at present, some mills had opened schools for the benefit of their own younger employees; but these schools were located within the compounds of the mills themselves so that now and then they were being called to duty even during the so-called school hours. It was therefore desirable to make a rule to the effect that schools should be located outside the mill premises and compounds.

As regards housing facilities also, a certain amount of legislative direction was necessary as otherwise the mill-owners would not interest themselves in providing adequate housing facilities for their employees. In the Bangalore City, for example, the municipality, with the help of the Government, was providing dwelling houses for the labouring classes. But the owners of mills had not come forward so far to bear their share of the cost of that scheme. It would be ideal if the municipality, the Central Government and the mill authorities all bore equal shares of the responsibility in this respect. He instanced the case of the mills at Nagpur which had provided dwelling houses for all their labourers at their own cost.

MR. K. MATTHAN reminded the speaker that the Whitley Commission had observed that the duty of providing dwelling houses for labourers was discharged by employers, the Government and the local bodies in inverse ratio to their responsibility and that employers had done most, while municipal councils had done least in this respect.

MR. VENKATARANGA IYENGAR however replied that the reverse of that finding was the case with Bangalore City. That was why he wanted that some legislative provision be made with regard to the responsibility of mill-owners in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore in the matter of housing facilities to their employees.

Then, with regard to the provision that mill-owners should afford adequate and suitable accommodation for the children of women workers, he wanted that the provision of good milk and the establishment of a *creche* for the purpose in each mill should also be insisted upon. Otherwise they would be no better than the usual kind of third class waiting sheds attached to railway stations.

MR. K. MATTHAN observed that even in that respect the Whitley Commission did not suggest any sort of compulsion. At any rate the Government of India did not find it necessary to employ such compulsion. He thought that too much pressure would only lead to alienating the co-operation of the mill-owners.

MR. VENKATARANGA IYENGAR observed that neither compulsion nor legislation would be necessary if an ideal state of affairs prevailed in any country. But so long as capital held sway and labour got its dues only where the State had interfered, legislation and

even compulsion were unfortunately necessary. By adopting his suggestion, the Government would only be going one more step forward in the humanitarian scheme which underlay this legislation. He also suggested that legislation be taken on hand on the lines of the Trade Unions Act, the Trade Disputes Act, the Conciliation Boards Act, etc., which had been in force elsewhere in India.

MR. K. MATTHAN replied that with regard to Trade Unions legislation, employers' and labourers' organizations were being consulted on certain details. If the Government decided on legislation, perhaps a Bill would be brought forward at the next session of the Assembly. He also added that the Industries Board was considering the question in the meanwhile.

Khan Bahadur MAHOMED ABBAS KHAN observed that the Bill under consideration was a necessary piece of legislation and hoped that the House would lend its unanimous support to it.

MR. H. K. MADIAH also was in favour of the Bill.

Srimathi SAKAMMA thanked the Government for having brought forward this legislation. But she wanted certain improvements to be effected in it so as to provide for the grant of leave either on bonus or on half wages to all women labourers for a period of one month before and one month after confinement. She agreed with Mr. Venkataranga Iyengar that the supply of milk to children of women labourers should be made a compulsory duty on the part of mill-owners. She also suggested that nursery schools be opened in all mills for the benefit of the younger labourers as well as of the children of the adult workers. She agreed that factory owners must be compelled to provide dwelling houses to all their labourers and that the houses themselves should be built in places specially selected for the purpose and in accordance with plans and designs to be approved by the Government. In conclusion, she enquired whether coffee plantations also would be brought under the operation of the proposed law.

MR. K. MATTHAN replied that so far as the agricultural side of plantations was concerned, it was not proposed to bring it under the purview of the Regulation, but that activities like curing, etc., would come under its operation.

MR. T. RAMACHANDRA expressed gratitude on behalf of the labour population in the State to the Government for having proposed this useful legislation. He suggested that it would be appreciated very much by the labour population if the Government provided for issuing welfare orders as recommended by the Whitley Commission even though the Government of India themselves had not accepted that recommendation.

With regard to Inspectors of factories, it had been stipulated that all District Magistrates should be Inspectors but not all Inspectors could be District Magistrates. In other words, the grade of the Inspectors of factories had been specifically defined. Similarly with regard to certifying surgeons, he would be very glad if their grade and status were also clearly defined, because certifying surgeons were very important persons and it was necessary that they should be free from any interest, directly or indirectly, in the concerned factories.

MR. K. MATTHAN replied that Government had enough rule-making powers under the Bill and that they would make sure by issuing adequate instructions that the surgeons were given full powers.

MR. T. RAMACHANDRA had no objection to leave it to the discretion of Government. But he added that under Section 12 (*a*), the grade of factory Inspectors had been specified and therefore he suggested that the grade of certifying surgeons also might well be defined.

In the next place, he was glad that the Government had made provision in the Bill for insisting on factories giving adequate rest and shelter to their labourers. But, there was one small facility which was lacking almost in every factory and which must be provided for, *viz.*, water. Any one passing by the Mysore Woollen, Cotton

and Silk Mills in Malleswaram at midday would notice hundreds of persons sitting by the roadside and taking their meal and experiencing considerable difficulty for water both for drinking and for washing. As regards dwelling houses, he was glad that the Municipality and the State were doing splendid work in the matter of providing houses for labourers in different parts of the State. When the Central Government and the local body were doing so much, he thought that it ought to be possible for the Government to make factory owners provide dwelling houses for a certain proportion of their labourers or to bear at least a third of the cost of the entire scheme.

He finally said that it would be a matter for widespread satisfaction if provision was made for the grant of maternity benefit to women labourers, as suggested by Srimathi Sakamma.

MR. K. MATTHAN replied that that question had already been taken up separately.

MR. J. MAHOMED IMAM, in opposing the Bill, said that it looked to him that those who had spoken so far appeared to have appreciated only the advantages of the Bill. He agreed, no doubt, that it was necessary to provide proper comforts and health facilities for all labourers. But he did not see any justification for throwing all the burden of providing those comforts and facilities only on the shoulders of factory owners. No law should be countenanced which sought to give comforts to the labourers while adversely affecting factory owners. It would be an unwise policy to kill the goose that lay golden eggs. It was only when factory owners thrived, the labourers could earn their wages. But if factory owners suffered, there would be nothing for the labourers to earn. For this reason he would suggest that the proposed legislation be made applicable only to those factories whose owners were making large profits. In Davangere, for example, there were a number of small factories which were not making profits. If such factories were compelled to open schools, to build houses, and so on, they would be hit very hard. He did not see why the Government and the municipalities concerned should shirk any responsibility for providing necessary comforts and facilities to the labour classes. He concluded with the suggestion that if the law was sought to be applied to all factories, then he would like it to be enacted in two parts, one applying to the larger factories and the other to the smaller ones.

MR. T. MARIAPPA who also was opposed to the Bill said that the word 'factory' had been defined as a concern employing 20 or more persons. He was aware of certain concerns which employed just that number of labourers but which were unable to take up the burdens imposed by the proposed legislation. For this purpose, he suggested that the law be applied only to concerns employing at least 50 labourers. Otherwise even small *beedi* factories, whose entire capital did not exceed one or two hundred rupees, would come under the purview of the Regulation and that would have the result of killing the industry altogether.

MR. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA, however, supported the Bill. But he said that the responsibilities already prescribed in the Bill represented the maximum that could be undertaken by factory owners. Some of the previous speakers had proposed other responsibilities also being thrown on factory owners; and if those suggestions were accepted, it would amount to what Mr. Imam had described as killing the goose that lay golden eggs.

MR. P. SUBBARAMA CHETTY said that he was sorry to oppose the Bill as the present time was not opportune for introducing it. It looked as though the Government had gone about this legislation with a presumption that capitalists were not at all caring for their labourers and that therefore legislation was absolutely necessary. But he would ask the Government to consider how far the country had progressed industrially and how many large mills were at work within the State. It was a fact that so many factories had not been able for several years past to declare any dividend whatsoever. While that was so, would it be fair,

he asked, to compel all such factories to take up costly schemes such as those which the Bill had in view? It was a pity that the Government went on comparing the State with advanced western countries, without noticing the glaring points of difference between the two with regard to their respective economic position. If the proposed law was enforced, almost all industries would receive a very serious set-back. Even the conditions obtaining in British India were not to be found in the Mysore State and so the British Indian Act need not be a reason in itself for Mysore also to enact a similar law.

In the next place, labour was not as efficient in Mysore as elsewhere and the cost of production was naturally very high. Such being the case, it would be inadvisable to reduce the number of working hours in the case of Mysore factories.

Thirdly, he agreed that factory owners should take every possible care of their labourers and that humanitarian considerations should prompt them in all their actions. And they were really taking care of their labourers. It was necessary for them to do so in their own interest. Why then, he asked, should third parties interfere and compel them?

Again, 'factory' was defined to be a concern in which 20 or more labourers were employed. That in itself was stringent enough. But, in the proposed Bill, it was proposed to call any concern a factory if it employed that number of workers, even if they were not all employed simultaneously.

MR. K. MATTHAN enquired if there were any small factories employing men by shifts.

MR. SUBBARAMA CHETTY replied that in Chikpet in Bangalore City and in the surrounding areas there were a number of weavers who employed 20 or 30 people in batches of 8 or 10 each, and all of them would be hit by the proposed legislation. They were not exactly seasonal concerns because all through the year they went on weaving. But during marriage seasons, due to special demands, they used to appoint extra hands who worked by shifts He hoped that it was not the intention of the Government to kill such industries, as would surely happen if the proposed law was enacted.

Next, under Section 5 (1), the Government proposed to have power to declare any premises to be a factory, whether or not the concern used electrical power. This would bring under the purview of the Regulation even those premises in which a few people worked on *charakas* or engaged themselves in manufacturing *beedies*. In these two ways many people were finding a living. Such people were, he said, certainly not able to provide schools, labour quarters and so on. If the factory law was applied to them, they would simply have to give up those industries. Consequently, so many women and children would be thrown out of employment and some of the young boys would possibly turn out to be K.D.'s.

As regards the raising of the age limit for purposes of employment in factories, the member brought to notice that in many cases heads of families were very old persons depending upon their young boys to earn a living for the family as a whole. If, as a result of the amendment of the law referred to, those boys were prevented from earning a living, so many families would have to go without bread. The Government were often expressing sympathy for the illiterate masses, were regretting the absence of small industries in the villages and were adumbrating schemes for starting minor and cottage industries. All the help that they were rendering in these directions would be of no avail if the proposed legislation was passed. For these reasons, he strongly opposed the measure.

MR. B. C RANGAPPA wanted the interval to be allowed to factory labourers every day to be raised from 1 to 1½ hours.

MR. V. V. IYER supported the Bill. He was aware that the labourers employed in concerns owned by the Government were much better off than labourers in private factories, and unless the proposed law was enacted, he

feared that the owners of these factories would continue to deny necessary comforts to their labourers.

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR appreciated the intention of the Government in proposing the Bill. It was natural, he said, for capitalists to oppose the Bill but he thought that that should not deter the Government from going ahead with the measure.

MR. K. MATTHAN said that the Government had noted the improvements suggested by some of the speakers over and above the provisions already contained in the Bill. But he thought that it would be wise to embody in the proposed legislation only those provisions which had been introduced in British India. He hoped therefore that the House would unanimously accept the principles of the Bill as placed in their hands.

Thereupon the general principles of the Bill were put to vote and *passed*.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET—(*contd.*).

MR. BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR at the outset reminded the House of one statement which he was making year in and year out in connection with the budgets of the State, namely, that so long as the State was burdened with salt tax, customs duty and subsidy, and so long as the Government went on investing borrowed funds on unremunerative works, so long was it bound to be groaning under deficit budgets. From the year 1919-20 onwards the budgets were ending in a series of deficits, and even though large works of public utility had been undertaken in subsequent years, that was not a matter for satisfaction, because the money spent on such works was borrowed money on which heavy rates of interest had to be paid. This was evident from the fact that since 1926-27 the expenditure on account of interest payable went on showing an increase so much so that in the budget year that item stood at as high a figure as Rs. 80·13 lakhs. The return from the Capital Works was less than the interest payable on the borrowed funds, and this only meant that the interest was being met from revenues other than those derived from the so-called works of public utility. Of course, the Assembly had the assurance of the Dewan that liquid money resources were available for paying off certain loans, and the Financial Secretary had also stated in the Explanatory Memorandum that the Government had provided adequate sinking funds for the purpose of repaying the loans. But the speaker asked whether the amount of sinking funds was enough to repay the entire debt of the State. Whether the country was progressing well or ill with regard to its debt position would become clear when it was remembered that the average debt *per capita* in the year 1926-27 was Rs. 8, whereas in 1935-36 it had increased to Rs. 16. The position was definitely worse now than in the past and it was incumbent on the part of the Government to revise their financial policy so that the State might not find itself altogether helpless at any future date. For this purpose it would be wise, he said, to invite an expert from outside in order that he might advise the Government how best to place the finances of the State on a really sound and lasting basis.

With regard to revenue remissions, it was a pity that the Government found themselves unable to grant any remission in spite of the fact that they had derived large revenues from gold mining, excise duty on sugar and matches, and also saved a large sum of money due to reduction of subsidy. This showed that, notwithstanding the prosperity budgets over which the Government were priding themselves year after year, there was really no money available in the treasury for giving the raiyats the relief which they much needed. Still he would ask the Government to consider whether it was not their duty to see that necessary relief was granted. It might be that they had no money. But even with no money, did not the Government, by one stroke of the pen, write off lakhs and lakhs of rupees on account of losses on the Iron Works? Whenever it suited

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their convenience, the Government compared the State with America, Germany or England. But he would ask why the Government would not like to compare themselves with Baroda, Travancore, Hyderabad and other Indian Administrations, all of which had been able to show surplus budgets. Those Administrations had granted substantial relief to their agriculturists and the Mysore raiyat would also appreciate it if his own Government granted remissions at least to the extent of one-fourth of the demand. The Dewan was pleased to say that Government officials had cheerfully borne salary cuts for some years and that the time had come for withdrawing such cuts. Similarly, would it not have been graceful for the Government to own that the agriculturists had cheerfully paid heavy assessments for a long time past and that the time had come for some small concession being shown to them? Even if the Government were unable to grant remissions immediately, it would have been a source of comfort and consolation to the raiyat if he had been told that at least in the year to come necessary relief would be granted. These sentiments would have found expression if the raiyats' conferences which had been proposed to be held recently had not been prohibited. He would remind the Government in this connection of what John Stuart Mill had written in his book on "Liberty":—

"The worth of a State in the long run is the worth of the individuals composing it; and a State which postpones the interests of their mental expansion and elevation, to a little more of administrative skill or of that semblance of it which practice gives in the details of business; a State which dwarfs its men in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes, will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished; and that the perfection of machinery to which it has sacrificed everything will in the end avail it nothing for want of the vital power which in order that the machine might work more smoothly it has preferred to banish."

The speaker believed, no doubt, that the Dewan bore real affection to the people; but probably he was compelled to pay more heed to the reports of local officers. It was a pity that local officers were not reporting facts correctly and that the Government were placing themselves too much in the hands of their local officers. The speaker only hoped that the position would improve in days to come and that in the meanwhile the Dewan would see that the sympathy he bore for the people of the State was not prevented from taking practical shape for the benefit of the State and the satisfaction of its subjects.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned for lunch and reassembled at 3-30 p.m.

MR. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA commenced with the observation that the budget had been shown to be a surplus one more as a result of manipulation of figures. So far as the revenue side of the budget was concerned, he did not believe that the Government could realise all their anticipations in the coming year. The economic depression was very acute and it would become absolutely necessary to give material relief to the tax-payer. During the current year, the crops had failed, tanks had received no supplies and the present *mungar* rains also had not been hopeful so far. Such being the case, the demand under land revenue would surely be very much less than anticipated. It would therefore be very inadvisable for Government to forego the savings due to salary cuts; and it was disappointing to find from the Dewan's Opening Address that Government had proposed to remove the cuts.

Continuing, the member requested for increased grants under Education, because the masses stood in urgent need of educational facilities. He also observed that the grant to the Public Works Department was very inadequate. This was a department which was vitally concerned with the welfare of the agricultural classes, and if larger grants were given to the department, it might become possible to repair or restore some more tanks and help the raiyats to get over the effects of the present economic depression. Village improvement and malnad improvement works also needed larger grants. The villages were in a deplorably backward condition and many of them were without drinking water wells. Communications in the interior parts were

inadequate and the Government must see that liberal provisions were made for showing improvement in all those respects. The member was not satisfied with the return that the general tax-payer was getting from all the expenditure that was being incurred on the Sanitary and the Agricultural Departments. He particularly instanced the case of experimental farms worked by the Agricultural Department and said that the benefits accruing therefrom had not reached many of the raiyats. It was time that Government examined the working of these farms and either improved them or abolished them altogether, keeping only the Chemical and the Botanical Sections of the Department.

MR. B. L. BYANNA regretted that the principle of drawing from the reserves for normal expenditure had not been given up by the Government despite objections raised by the Assembly for many years past. He sympathised with the Government in their difficulty to meet all the demands. But utilisation of reserves was not the best way of meeting the demands. The Government must strive hard to see that the subsidy was wiped out altogether, and until that was done, they must keep down expenditure to an irreducible minimum. It was inadvisable, he said, to forego the benefit of salary cuts in the meanwhile. He repeated the suggestion made by a number of members in the past that the number of appointments should be reduced, that their grades should be revised and that the number of districts also should be reduced. Amalgamation of departments was also a step suggested by many but not acted upon by the Government, and this also should be done. As regards the expenditure budget, he wanted a much larger grant to be given to the Education Department since the percentage of literacy stood as low as between 5 and 6. No doubt, large sums of money were being devoted to the cause of education for the last 60 years, but the progress recorded was not commensurate with all that expenditure. It was the duty of Government to investigate why it was so. Meanwhile, the number of primary and middle schools should be increased. As regards the ways and means of doing this, he suggested that 100 acres out of the lands belonging to the Sunkal Farm at Bangalore be sold away, the proceeds being invested and the interest receipts utilised for recurring expenditure on education. If garden assessment was levied on the 100 acres of land sold out, the Government might expect to get about Rs. 10,000 every year. He wanted that this amount should be earmarked for giving more and more drinking water wells in rural parts. He then brought to notice that the efficiency of the Police Department was improving, but at the same time he would like police officers, particularly those in the grade of Superintendents, to be transferred to fresh charges at the end of every two years. Lastly, he suggested that Government should make better arrangements for scrutinising the work of the Agricultural Department; because, he personally felt that that department stood in need of a greater sense of responsibility on the part of its officers.

MR. H. K. MADIAH prefaced his remarks with a suggestion that the number of Kannada Reporters of the Assembly should be increased. In this connection, he brought to notice that the proceedings of the previous session of the Assembly contained pretty full and accurate reports of the speeches of certain members; but the bulk of the discussions had been reported in rather too condensed a fashion. Even though the members had not the satisfaction that all their representations were acceded to by the Government, fuller reports would be a source of satisfaction to them as well as to their constituencies that at least all the wants and grievances of the people were being brought to the notice of the Government. If the proceedings were abridged very much, even this consolation would be denied to the members and their constituencies. For this reason, he suggested that Government should appoint at least two more Kannada Reporters.

Proceeding to the budget, he requested that necessary funds be provided for the construction of bridges across the Shimsha between Kadanahalli and Banasandra in Malvalli Taluk as well as across the Arkavati near Kankanhalli. These were requests which were being made for a long time past and accepted by Government; but practically, the Government had not taken action to give effect to their promises in this behalf. Recently, the Government had sanctioned the construction of a bridge at Ramanathapur, the money being met out of the petrol tax revenue. He requested that the expenditure on account of the two bridges referred to above be similarly met from the petrol tax revenue to be derived in the budget year. He then remarked that land mortgage banks should have been opened in all the taluks in view of the passing of the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation. He requested that this be done at least during the coming year, sufficient provision being made in the budget for the purpose.

THE FIRST MEMBER (*Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur* K. MATTHAN) observed that the provision for opening land mortgage banks need not be included in the budget estimates. The funds necessary for the purpose of granting loans would have to come from debenture loans, and that was not a matter concerning the State Budget.

MR. MADIAH then brought to notice that the people of Malvalli Taluk were among the poorest of the subjects of the State. He therefore suggested that some relief works be started in that taluk. In the next place, he brought to notice that the Chief Engineer had issued a circular that all public works in rural parts must be entrusted on contracts only to men with the B.E. Degree. He did not see the justice of such a circular and asked why long-standing contractors were now considered unfit to take up the same contracts. He next brought to notice that at the time of settling contractors' bills, a deduction was being made in all cases to the extent of 6¼ per cent and said that that was an action which was most unreasonable.

MR. K. MATTHAN replied that deduction was not being done if any contracts had been given on the tender system. In other cases, the deduction was being made on account of the fact that the scheduled rates were considered to be rather very high.

MR. MADIAH then regretted that the Government had prevented the holding of raiyats' conferences in several parts of the State. The main idea of these conferences was to press for remission of assessment. He hoped that even now, the Government would consider the question of giving large remissions in the year to come.

In conclusion, the member referred to certain newspaper reports to the effect that Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan, First Member of Council, would be retiring in the course of the year and that the general public felt disturbed by such news. In case it was true, he would appeal to His Highness the Maharaja, in the name of the Assembly and the tax-payer in general, that the Member of Council be graciously granted extension of service for two more years.

MR. SIDDALINGA DEVARU, who spoke next, remarked that it was not possible for him to do better justice to the budget than Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar who had studied it from a true financial point of view. But he would make some remarks from a purely agricultural standpoint. It was the duty of the Government, he said, to see that every possible help was rendered to the raiyat in order to enable him to grow two blades of grass in future where only one grew in the past and to derive better returns from his land than his ancestors did. For, then alone would the agriculturist be in a position to give that response which the Government expected whenever they imyosed increased taxation. It was only the prosperous raiyat that helped all others to prosper in their own fields; and if the raiyat should prosper he should no longer follow the time-honoured methods of agriculture—sowing rotten seeds, ploughing with rickety wooden ploughs and depending upon half-starved cattle. Science had done much

to improve the methods of agriculture and Europe and America had proved that scientific agriculture was as profitable as any other industry. How was it, he asked, that American farmers were able to grow much more wheat than their entire country required so that they were able to use it even for fuel? Was it not because they followed scientific methods? Science to-day was influencing and guiding all arts, occupations and concerns and the agriculturist could no longer afford to do without it. The Indian tailor of old, for example, who followed crude methods of stitching could not earn 4 annas a day. But the modern tailor was able, with the help of the sewing machine, easily to earn as many rupees. If therefore the agriculturist also bade good bye to his grandfather's wooden plough and the ill-fed and over-worked bullocks, if he went in for improved ploughs and better cattle, if he sowed better seeds and used scientific manures, he was bound to raise much better crops than his forefathers did on the same land which he had inherited from those very forefathers.

He was exteremely pained to see that Mr. Channabasappa, of all members, should have spoken disparagingly of the Agricultural Department and its experimental farms. That member had once been selected for making a special study of Agricultural Chemistry with a view to carry on agriculture on improved lines and offered a scholarship of Rs. 75 per month for that purpose. When such an educated member spoke so lightly of the scientific and other original work that was being done by the Mysore Agricultural Department, the speaker said, his heart nearly broke. He added that he would not have worried himself so much about it if any other member, who was unable to appreciate the good work of the department, had made those remarks.

Proceeding, MR. SIDDALINGA DEVARU earnestly appealed to all educated young men to take to agriculture. The University was manufacturing hosts of graduates every year and thereby creating the unemployment problem in the State. The time had come for the Government to consider how best to solve that problem. In devising measures in this behalf, the University should also share its responsibility. His own suggestion in this respect was that just as separate departments of study had been established in regards to Philosophy, History, Mathematics, etc., and diplomas and degrees instituted, a department of agriculture should be established and the best brains among the University students induced to take to agriculture, to specialise in it and to go back to the land after their study was over. There would then be no unemployment problem in the State. He suggested that the Hebbal School should be affiliated to the University and instead of the "L. Ag." certificates that were being granted at present, the degree of "B.Sc. (Agri.)" should be conferred on all successful candidates. All holders of this degree should be appointed for work in the villages as Village Panchayet Inspectors and as Sanitary Inspectors so that they might deliver the message of scientific agriculture and agricultural prosperity throughout the length and breadth of the State. They would then be able to give up crude methods of agriculture and become active canvassers of scientific agriculture. They would be rendering to the country much better service than the ordinary Bachelors and Masters of Arts. The number of absentee landlords was large in the State and they held vast extents of land which were at present either lying fallow or yielding very poor returns. If those lands were entrusted to their charge on lease, these votaries of scientific agriculture would cultivate them and grow rich crops, help themselves as well as the landlords and also help all the rest of the community by setting a noble example to it. They would be inducing the youth of the country to realise the dignity of labour. They would be helping, through their own success in life, the University and the State to add to their reputation. Then, as agriculturists, they would live longer and healthier lives and earn better and spend better and there would no longer be the necessity for the agriculturists

to go on cringing for land revenue remissions or suspensions.

Khan Bahadur MAHOMED ABBAS KHAN began with the observation that he was sorry that Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar should, in the course of his budget speech, have taken considerable pains for surveying the budgets of the past 20 or 25 years with a view to show that there had been a series of deficit budgets resulting in a total loss of about 2 crores of rupees to the State. The speaker's own opinion was that the position was quite the reverse. He should have agreed that the State had incurred a loss if the money had gone out of the State. He said that the large expenditure incurred on useful departments like Education, Medical, etc., was enough to prove that all that money had been used within the State for the benefit of its people. As the Government had incurred such a large expenditure on these useful departments, it was the duty of public men to thank them for their able statesmanship. With regard to Mr. Srinivasiengar's observation that the Government had failed to give remissions of land revenue even to the extent of 25 per cent, he reminded the House that, though not directly in the shape of remissions, the Government had really done much to relieve the suffering raiyat. They had provided for remissions to the extent of Rs. 5 lakhs, and for writing off irrecoverable advances they had provided one lakh of rupees. The Department of Public Works had taken up relief works costing Rs. 2 lakhs, and a sum of Rs. 50,000 had been set apart for similar works in panchayet areas. roads and road works had received Rs. 1½ lakhs. These and other items would receive in all as much as Rs. 11½ lakhs. Suspension of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs had also been given. So, the total relief was to the extent of about Rs. 20 lakhs, for which the Government deserved the gratitude of the public.

The budget estimates of the current year had provided for a surplus of Rs. 3·63 lakhs. The revised figures showed that the surplus stood indeed higher by Rs. 2·42 lakhs after sanctioning suspension of revenue to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs. In the budget year, the income was estimated to be Rs. 11·33 lakhs more than in the current year and this indeed was a sign of the increasing prosperity of the State. Some might characterise it as over-estimation. Such a charge had been levelled even against the estimated revenue figures for the current year; but the revised figures had proved that it was no over-estimation at all.

On the expenditure side, it was seen that Rs. 4·64 lakhs more than in the current year were provided, and this could be easily explained. By reducing the salary cut, the Government would be foregoing Rs. 3 lakhs and the contribution which His Highness the Maharaja was graciously making for some years past due to unprecedented financial difficulties of the Government would not also be available from the coming year. Despite the reduced income on account of these two items, it was satisfactory to note that the total revenues of the State for the next year were expected to be Rs. 11·33 lakhs more than in the current year. Even as regards contributions to the reserves, about which some members seemed to be complaining loudly, he said that as against Rs. 13·40 lakhs received in the shape of interest on investments, only Rs. 10 lakhs were proposed to be utilised and the balance of about Rs. 3 lakhs credited to the loan sinking fund. Taking the total debt position of the State, the member said that the total interest payable on all the debts together was Rs. 58·71 lakhs. The investments yielded an interest of Rs. 24 lakhs, so that only a sum of Rs. 34·16 lakhs would have to be provided for. As against this the capital works of the State were yielding a revenue of Rs. 60·38 lakhs so that, even after providing for the net amount payable as interest, there would still be a saving of Rs. 26·22 lakhs every year. The total debts to be discharged in course of time stood at 8 crores and 45 lakhs of rupees against which 2 crores and 75 thousand rupees had been provided in liquid form already, so that the balance stood only at Rs. 5½ crores.

This, certainly, was not much for the State, and so, in every way, the position was most satisfactory. In these circumstances he was not a little surprised that Mr. Belur Srinivasiengar should have characterised the financial position of the State as unsatisfactory and that the State was incurring losses every year for a long time past. He also added that the State was not the same as a private bank. A bank was interested in deriving profits from its transactions, but the State was interested in utilising for the benefit of its subjects all the revenue it derived. A private individual might be wrong in borrowing money for using it for his own personal comforts, but a State would certainly be justified in borrowing for the purpose of carrying out works of public utility like tanks, wells, roads and bridges. In conclusion, he complimented the Government for having been able to present a surplus budget for the coming year and thanked them for all that they were doing to help the people to tide over the present difficulties due to world causes.

At this stage, the House rose for the day to meet again at 12 of the clock on Monday, 17th June 1935.

FOURTH DAY.

Monday, 17th June 1935.

The House reassembled at 12 of the clock.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS— (*contd.*).

Prohibition of Raiyats' Conferences.

MESSRS. H. B. GUNDAPPA (Hassan Taluk) and A. S. NANJUNDAPPA (Alur Sub-Taluk).—

Q.—31. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table of this House :—

(*a*) The recent orders of Government prohibiting the holding of raiyats' conferences under the auspices of the People's Federation in the State ?

(*b*) How many such meetings were arranged to be held within the last 10 days of the month of March ?

(*c*) How many meetings were prohibited from coming off and what are they ?

(*d*) Is it not a fact that those meetings were arranged in order to represent to Government the raiyats' grievances and to get relief ?

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (MR. K. V. ANANTARAMAN).—

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Six.

(*c*) The meetings at the following places :—

(1) Nelapatna, Tumkur Taluk.
(2) Sugganahalli, Magadi Taluk, Bangalore District.
(3) Holera Kothanur, Kankanhalli Taluk, Bangalore District.
(4) Akkur, Channapatna Taluk, Bangalore District.
(5) Hunasanahalli, Channapatna Taluk, Bangalore District.

(*d*) No.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—The answer to question (*d*) is in the negative. On what basis did the Government think that the conferences were not meant to represent the grievances of the raiyats ?

MR. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—On the basis of the information that was before the Government.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—What was that information ?

MR. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—I am sorry it cannot be divulged.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—Had not the objects of the conference been clearly defined and also published in several newspapers ?

MR. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—That might have been done.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—If so, were not the Government aware of the objects ?

MR. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Government did not receive any information from the leaders.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—Did not the objects of the conference come to the notice of the Government through newspapers ?